

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6422

BILL NUMBER: SB 110

DATE PREPARED: Mar 2, 2001

BILL AMENDED: Mar 1, 2001

SUBJECT: Child Care Ministries and Step Ahead Councils.

FISCAL ANALYST: Kathy Norris

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FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
X FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill provides that a child care ministry that receives a child care development voucher may only be required by a local Step Ahead Council to meet eight minimum child care standards unless additional standards are approved by the General Assembly or the Division of Family and Children.

Effective Date: July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) The bill stipulates that a child care ministry, a state license-exempt child care provider class, may only be required by a local Step Ahead Council to comply with eight minimum child care standards. The bill adds three items to the list of minimum standards recommended by the Division of Family and Children. The additional items are: (1) the provision of a working telephone; (2) to document and conduct monthly fire drills; and (3) to ensure that firearms, ammunition, chemicals, bleach and cleaning materials are not accessible to children. If the local Step Ahead Council has adopted the existing five minimum health and safety requirements recommended, a provider must comply with the standards in order to be a certified provider in the Child Care and Development Fund voucher program. If the provider chooses not to accept the requirements, the provider is not eligible to receive federal subsidy payments. This bill provides that the local Step Ahead Councils may not apply any other locally determined standards to child care ministries as a condition of participation in the Child Care and Development Fund voucher program.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: The Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Family and Children.

Local Agencies Affected: Local Step Ahead Councils.

Information Sources: Susan Preble, FSSA Legislative Liaison (232-1149).